

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 035398

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CPAS, CVIS, LY

SUBJECT: LIBYAN PASSPORT PROBLEM

FOLL SENT ACTION NATO INFO TRIPOLI BONN BRUSSELS THE HAGUE LONDON
PARIS ROME BERN EC BRUSSELS MOSCOW USUN NEW YORK FROM SECSTATE
26 FEB 73 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 035398

SUBJ: LIBYAN PASSPORT PROBLEM

REF: NATO 987

1. YOU MAY INFORM POLADS THAT US PROCEDURE IS TO REFER MOST
LIBYAN VISA APPLICATIONS TO US FOR ADVISORY OPINION FROM
DEPARTMENT . VISAS ARE THEN ISSUED TO BEARERS OF LIBYAN PASSPORTS
ONLY AFTER COMPLETION OF " ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW" OF SPECIFIC
PPLICATIONS BY DEPARTMENT, AND ONLY UPON SPECIFIC INSTRUCTION
FROM DEPARTMENT TO ISSUING POST. THESE PROCEDURES HAVE BEEN IN
EFFECT SINCE JANUARY SHORTLY AFTER LIBYAN REGULATIONS WENT INTO
EFFECT. ALTHOUGH VISA APPLICATIONS REFERRED TO DEPT HAVE NOT BEEN
REFUSED, FEW IN FACT HAVE BEEN APPROVED. LIBYAN VISA
APPLICATIONS NOW AWAITING COMPLETION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW
AND APPROVAL BY DEPT INCLUDE THOSE FOR SEVERAL BEARERS OF LIBYAN
DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS.

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2. YOU MAY FURTHER INFORM POLADS THAT IN RESPONSE TO REQUEST FROM LARG FOREIGN MINISTRY, DEPT APPROVED ISSUANCE OF VISAS TO SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF STUDENTS, WITH EXPLANATION TO LIBYAN AUTHORITIES THAT WE HOPED THIS GESTURE TO LARG IN ISSUING VISAS (EVEN THOUGH ALL ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES NOT YET COMPLETED) WOULD LEAD TO NORMALIZATION OF TRAVEL AND VISA ISSUANCE PROCEDURES BETWEEN US AND LIBYA. UNFORTUNATELY, THERE HAS BEEN NO POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THIS GESTURE BY LARG. OUR DIPLOMATIC COURIERS CONTINUE TO HAVE VISAS REFUSED, AND ENTRY CONTINUES TO BE DENIED TO USG OFFICIALS. IN THIS REGARD REPORT OF LIBYAN NOTE TO FRENCH (STATE 34585) RE INSISTANCE ON ARABIC IN DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS IS NOT ENCOURAGING NOTE.

3. YOU SHOULD TELL POLADS THAT IN ADDITION TO PRESENTING DEMARCHES OR WHILE AWAITING POSITIVE RESULTS FROM DEMARCHES MADE IN TRIPOLI, WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT SEPARATE MEASURES SUCH AS DELAY OR REFUSAL OF VISA ISSUANCE APPLICABLE TO HOLDERS OF LIBYAN OFFICIAL AS WELL AS REGULAR PASSPORTS, IS NECESSARY IF LARG IS TO BE INDUCED TO REVERSE OR MODIFY ITS POSITION. DRAWING ON TRIPOLI 220, YOU SHOULD SAY WE HOPE THEREFORE THAT OTHER MISSIONS WILL CONTINUE AND INTENSIFY FIRM MEASURES THEY ARE TAKING TO BRING HOME ISSUE TO DECISION MAKING LEVEL OF LARG WHICH WE ARE NOT RPT NOT YET SATISFIED FULLY UNDERSTANDS IMPLICATIONS FOR LIBYAN NATIONALS OF RIGID STAND IT HAS TAKEN ON PASSPORT ISSUE.

4. YOU MAY ALSO REVIEW OUR CONSULTATIONS WITH SOVIETS ON PROBLEM, DRAWING ON MOSCOW 2077.

5. FOR TRIPOLI. YOU MAY OF COURSE ALSO DRAW ON THE ABOVE FOR RESCHEDULED CD MEETING TRIPOLI MARCH 5 (TRIPOLI 220). GDS RUSH UNQUOTE ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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